Copyists of the Revenue Department.

283. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list, by taluks, of the number of copyists employed by the Revenue Department during the years 1100, 1101, 1102 and 1103 together with the net amount of copying fees received and distributed among these copyists during those years?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): A statement* containing the information asked for is laid on the table.

Regulation of Motor bus fares.

284. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the owners of service motor buses including eight seater buses are very often demanding from the passengers unreasonably high rates of fare according to their whims and caprices;

(*b*) whether a schedule of rates fixing the fares is also issued along with the permits issued to the bus-owners; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the negative, whether they have, by any general or special order, fixed the fares to be realised by such owners from the passengers?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) The answer is in the negative.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): With reference to the answer to part (*a*) of the question, may I know whether the Government will enquire into the mattter?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The member suggests a course of action; hence it cannot be answered.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): My question was with regard to part (*a*) of the question.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): It is stated in the reply that the answer is in the nagative.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): My question is with reference to part (*a*) of the answer whether the Government will enquire into the matter?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The question is whether they are aware and not whether they have enquired.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know now whether the Government will enquire as to whether there is such a practice now obtaining.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The member cannot suggest any course of action which the Government should take.

* *Vide* Appendix VIII pages 43—46.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): With reference to the answer to part (*c*) of the question, may I know whether the Government will consider the advisability of fixing a fare at least in future?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): As at present advised, Government do not think it advisable to fix the rates, because there is competition among the several proprietors and owners of the buses. In course of time the natural consequence of this will be that there will be a reduction in the fares.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): Is the member aware that the price of petrol will vary?

PRESIDENT: You cannot ask a question now.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): If the competition is found to be unhealthy, is it not desirable to fix some rates?

MR. P. N KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): That question has to be considered only in future.

Irrigation works in the Neyyattinkara Taluk.

285. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount sanctioned for irrigation works in the Neyyattinkara taluk for the year 1103, and how much of it was actually spent;

(*b*) if the whole amount sanctioned was not spent, the reasons therefor; and

(*c*) whether the officers concerned are not responsible to see that as much work is turned out during the year as could possibly be done with the amount sanctioned?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Amount sanctioned ... Rs. 18,725.
Amount actually spent ... Rs. 18,112.

(*b*) and (*c*) The difference is trifling and hence these questions do not arise.

The Venganur Todu.

286. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): With regard to the Venganur *todu* in the Tiruvallam pakuti, Neyyattinkara taluk, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount sanctioned for the improvement of the same during the years 1101, 1102 and 1103, together with the amount actually spent during each of those years;

(*b*) the work that was actually executed by way of improvement thereof in each of the abovesaid years; and

(*c*) whether the *todu* in its present state is useful for purposes of irrigation?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly